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DENBY DALE URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1940

LIBRARY

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for year 1940

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OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk:- J. Haigh

Medical Officer:- Dr. D. Bell, M.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:- F. Greenwood, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Surveyor, Water Engineer and Cleansing Superintendent:-

E. E. B. Harrison, A.M.I.M.C.E.

Financial Officer:- A. Senior, A.C.R.A.

Collectors:- C. E. Taylor and F. Matthewman.

Council Office:- Huddersfield Road, Skelmanthorpe,
Telephone: Skelmanthorpe 3141Surveyor's and Sanitary Inspector's Office:
Wakefield Road, Denby Dale. Telephone Skelmanthorpe 3101Medical Officer: The Cliff, Skelmanthorpe.
Telephone Skelmanthorpe 2239.



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A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

To the Members of the
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DENBY DALE.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st. 1940, this being the third Annual Report for the new combined area.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Circular 2067 of the Ministry of Health and has been curtailed as suggested in the circular.

The portion of the report relating to the Sanitary Circumstances Of The Area has been prepared by the Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DOUGLAS BELL, M.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,165 acres
Maximum elevation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,050 ft.
Minimum elevation	...	...	...	...	...	...	283 ft.
Population - Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid-1940	9,649						
Number of inhabited houses							3,155
Number of above houses which rank as "working class"							2,849
Number of new houses completed in 1940:-							
By the Council	...	0		Others	...	17	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£34,996
Sum represented by a penny rate	...			...	...	...	£148

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	(Legitimate	Total	M.	F.		Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population mid-1940
	(Illegitimate	129	65	64		
		3	1	2		
Still Births	...	9	3	6		Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births - 63.83
Deaths	...	152	60	92		Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 15.75

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :-

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
No.29 Puerperal sepsis	1	7.09
No.30 Other puerperal causes	0	0.0
Total	1	7.09

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births :-	77.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:-	77.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:-	0.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	16
" " Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	0

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance facilities. For infectious cases a Motor ambulance is maintained by the Joint Isolation Hospital Committee.

For accident and urgent sickness cases a privately owned motor ambulance serves this area and an adjoining area. It is subsidised by this Council and the adjoining local authority. Its service has been good and reliable and it is available day and night. There is no charge for conveyance within the area or from the area to the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, but a charge is made for conveyance to places farther away.

An ambulance maintained by the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary under a Contributory Scheme, is also available to contributors at restricted times and for a small charge.

Hospitals. - Infectious diseases are treated at the Penistone Joint Isolation Hospital which is situated a short distance outside the area. The Hospital is controlled by a joint Committee of representatives of the constituent authorities.

For smallpox there is a separate small Hospital situated in the same neighbourhood and controlled by the same Committee. No change or extension of these premises has taken place during the year.

General and accident cases are received by the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

There is no local cottage hospital and there are no Maternity Homes.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table I. shows notifications received of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	4	0
Diphtheria	4	4	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Measles	63	0	0
Pneumonia	10	0	3

TABLE II. Shows the age distribution of certain of the Notified Infectious Diseases.

	AGE GROUPS													Totals
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	1	1	1	1	1	6	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	12

Incidence of Infectious Disease

The health of the district has been good with the exception of an epidemic of Measles which has been going on more or less through the year in the Emley, Skelmanthorpe and Clayton West Wards. There have been no deaths from the disease.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWATER SUPPLY

Distribution. A piped supply distributed by the Council is available throughout the area except for a number of isolated premises. During the year, 3 old houses and 17 new houses were connected. The total numbers are - connected 301; unconnected 144.

Sources of Supply. The Denby & Cumberworth Wards are supplied by the Dewsbury & Heckmondwike Waterworks Board's supply, through service reservoirs situate at Rusby Wood and Cumberworth. This supply is chlorinated at its source and the water as drawn by consumers frequently has a strong taste of chlorine.

The Skelmanthorpe and the Clayton West Wards derive their supply from the same source through a service reservoir situate at Skelmanthorpe.

The Emley Ward is supplied by the Huddersfield Corporation through a covered concrete tank situate at Emley Moor. This supply in dry periods is inadequate in quantity and much inconvenience is caused, especially at premises where the water-carriage system is installed.

Bacteriological Examination. Samples have been taken regularly of the water in use and also for observation purposes of the Rusby Springs which have been disused. The following Table shows the results of these tests.

Date of Sampling year 1940	Jan. 4	Jan. 25	Feb. 15	Mar. 7	Mar. 28	Apr. 22	June 6	July 4	July 8	Sept. 12	Oct. 10	Nov. 7	Dec. 12
<u>Rusby Reservoir</u> - <u>Old Spring</u> Presumptive B. Coli per 100 m.l. of water													
Reported as satisfactory	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<u>Rusby Reservoir</u> - <u>New wells</u> Presumptive B. Coli per 100 m.l. of water													
Reported as satisfactory	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<u>Dewsbury & Heckmondwike</u> <u>Waterworks Board Supply</u>													
Presumptive B. Coli per 100 m.l. of water	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o
Reported as satisfactory	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Note; - The use of the Rusby New Wells was discontinued in 1938. The use of the Rusby Old Spring was discontinued on August 18th 1939 except as a supply to a residence and cottage with an acquired right to this supply free. Examination of these supplies is continued for observation purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

A number of the outlying parts of the area still remain unsewered or only partially severed. An extension of the sewer to Cuttlehurst Hill in the Clayton West Ward has been carried out enabling insanitary conditions of drainage and sanitary accommodation to be rectified.

There are five separate outfall works for sewage disposal. No complaints have been received from the West Riding Rivers Board.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Very little pollution from domestic sewage occurs. The West Riding Rivers Board have control in the area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The Council make a small grant towards the cost of conversion of privy closets. Voluntary conversion has been carried out in a number of cases as a result of this grant. Steady progress is being made with respect to the installation of the water-carriage system where the sewers and water supply permit. The following summary shows the changes in the accommodation which have taken place during the year:-

No. of privies reconstructed - as W.C.s	18	as privies	1
No. of privies abolished	- 1		
No. of additional W.C.s for old premises	- 13		
No. of W.C.s provided for new houses	- 18		
No. of privies provided for new houses	- 1		

During the previous five years the number of privies converted in the areas now included in the combined area, was:-

1935 - 37; 1936 - 26; 1937 - 64; 1938 - 61; 1939 - 57

The accommodation existing at the end of this year is as detailed hereunder:-

Privies with open middens	33
Privies with covered middens	1608
Pail closets.....	6
Water Closets	2022
Waste water closets	0

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This work is under the control of the Surveyor. Collection is carried out by the Council's covered scavenging type waggon and hired motor and horse drawn vehicles. Disposal of the refuse is by tipping on the uncontrolled system.

The cost of collection and disposal was £1368.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREANumber and nature of Inspections made

Investigating complaints	56
Property under notice	131
Works in progress	74
Disinfecting and enquiries after infectious disease	14
Re-visits to overcrowded houses	9
Vermifested houses	2
Factories	6
Bakehouses	6
Cowhouses and dairies	280
Slaughterhouse (Food controlled)	293
Slaughterhouses (Private)	58
Farms w/ pigs slaughtered under Food Control Permits	17
Food preparing premises	8
Ice cream preparing premises	2
Taking samples of milk	25
Taking samples of water	38
Investigation of well water supplies	3
School	1
Pig keeping premises	2
Interviews with property owners	28
Miscellaneous visits	114
	1167

REMOVAL OF NUISANCESNUMBER AND NATURE OF DEFECTS FOUND AT 83 PREMISES

Drains requiring connecting to sewer	2
" " repair	1
" " reconstruction	3
" choked	2
Sink waste pipe defective	1
Privy closets requiring conversion to W.C. system	13
" " reconstruction	1
" " provision of access for scavenging	1
Insufficient closet accommodation	2
Additional W.C.s required	7
W.C.s defective	2
Ashpit defective	1
Ashbins required	16
Flooding of house	1
Dirty condition of houses	3
Bug infestation of house	1
Nuisance from coal gas in house due to leaky main outside	1
Dangerous condition of entrance doorway of house	1
Offensive accumulations	3
Defects under Factories Act:-	
W.C.s not provided with doors	9
Defects under Milk & Dairies Orders:-	
Neglect to limewash cowsheds at appointed time	10
Cowshed requiring reconstruction	1
Cowshed with defective floor	1
Cowshed with dirty approach	1
Bottling of Designated Milk without licence	1

85

Of these defects 72 were remedied and also 17 defects outstanding from previous years.

<u>NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED</u>	Informal 15	complied with 6
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Statutory 0	complied with 0
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<u>SUMMONSES AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u>	3	successful 3
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SHOPS ACT, 1926.

No defects relating to ventilation, temperature or sanitary accommodation were found during the year.

CAMPING SITES. There are no sites in the area used for camping purposes subject to the licencing provisions of the Public Health Act.

SMOKE ABATEMENT. This matter is subject to emergency regulations.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. There is one swimming bath only in the area. This is owned by the local Miners' Welfare Fund Trustees. It is a modern covered bath fitted with a chlorination and filtration apparatus operated on the continuous system. Daily tests of the bath water for chlorine content are carried out by the superintendent in charge. No samples have been taken owing to curtailment of Laboratory facilities due to war conditions.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of infestation were found in the Council Houses. One case of a privately owned house notified by the owner was dealt with by fumigation and spraying.

With respect to tenants going into Council Houses, treatment of the furniture by the H.C.N. process in special vans is carried out by a contractor. The bedding is dealt with by steam apparatus.

SCHOOLS. All the schools are in a good sanitary condition and have the Council's water supply installed. The privy system remains at two schools but in one case the sewerage system is not suitable for the installation of the water carriage system.

<u>FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (Form 572)</u>			
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	6	0	0
Factories without mechanical power	6	0	0
Other premises under the Act	0	0	0
Total	12	0	0
		<u>Number of defects</u>	
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences defective		9	9
Total	9	9	
Outwork in unwholesome premises - instances	0		
Means of escape in case of Fire (Section 34):-			
Number of Certificates issued during the year -	2		

	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	6	0	0
Factories without mechanical power	6	0	0
Other premises under the Act	0	0	0
Total	12	0	0
		<u>Number of defects</u>	
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences defective		9	9
Total	9	9	
Outwork in unwholesome premises - instances	0		
Means of escape in case of Fire (Section 34):-			
Number of Certificates issued during the year -	2		

	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	6	0	0
Factories without mechanical power	6	0	0
Other premises under the Act	0	0	0
Total	12	0	0
		<u>Number of defects</u>	
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences defective		9	9
Total	9	9	
Outwork in unwholesome premises - instances	0		
Means of escape in case of Fire (Section 34):-			
Number of Certificates issued during the year -	2		

	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	6	0	0
Factories without mechanical power	6	0	0
Other premises under the Act	0	0	0
Total	12	0	0
		<u>Number of defects</u>	
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences defective		9	9
Total	9	9	
Outwork in unwholesome premises - instances	0		
Means of escape in case of Fire (Section 34):-			
Number of Certificates issued during the year -	2		

SECTION D. - HOUSING

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR - Inspection has been made of 31 houses and in 29 cases defective conditions were found. These houses were classified as - Unfit 4, Not in all respects fit, 25.

REMEDY OF DEFECTS - Some minor repairs have been carried out but in no case has the total number of defects been remedied.

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS. - No action has been taken owing to War Time conditions.

OVERCROWDING - At the end of last year, 14 houses were overcrowned. Re-housing by the Council has relieved 1 case and another case has been relieved by decrease in the number of the family, leaving a total of 12 houses overcrowded at the end of this year.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

DAIRY SUPPLY - The bulk of the supply is produced within the area and generally is distributed by the producers. Generally the premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition. Steady progress is being made with the provision of milk rooms and sterilising rooms.

Licences for the production of milk under the Special Designations Order are granted by the County Council who also generally carry out the sampling of milk sold under this Order. During the year 1 licence has been granted for the production of "Accredited" milk. No licences are in force with respect to the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk or in respect of Pasteurising plants. No retailers have been removed from the register in respect of proceedings under the Milk & Dairies Order. There was no instance of disease attributed to milk during the year.

Number of Registered Cowkeepers	90
" " "Accredited Milk" producers ...	21
" " Wholesale traders	16
" " Retail milk sellers	76
" " Cowsheds registered	150
" " Cowshed inspections	280
" " Milk cows in area (approx)	1100
" " Samples of Ordinary Milk taken for Methlene Blue Test	23 (satisfactory 15)
" " Samples of ordinary Milk taken for presence of Tuberculosis	? (see note 1)
" " Samples of Designated Milk	1 (see note 2)

Notes (1) A number of the samples submitted for the Methlene Blue Test are at the discretion of the County Laboratory submitted to a further test for presence of Tuberculosis. Two of the samples were reported as showing presence of Tuberculosis and examination of the herds concerned was carried out by the Veterinary Staff.

(2) Copies of the reports on samples taken by the County Council officials of Designated Milk are forwarded to this Council for information purposes. During the year 36 of these reports have been received.

MEAT SUPPLY. There is no public abattoir. Since January 15th slaughtering has taken place at a slaughter-house in the area administered by the Ministry of Food. There are 14 licensed slaughter-houses. With the above named exception, these are of course inoperative except for occasional slaughtering of pigs carried out under Food Control Permits for pig keepers.

Regular inspections have been made during slaughtering times as detailed on page 7. Particulars of animals inspected are contained in the accompanying tabulated statement. Among the carcasses condemned are a number of animals subject to emergency slaughter as casualties. Also carcasses of 4 cows condemned were brought in for slaughter under the Tuberculosis (cattle) Orders previous to the meat control, such animals were dealt with outside this area.

(11)
CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Inspected	379	168	20	2389	782
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole Carcasses condemned	0	13	2	8	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	26	11	1	125	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.86	14.22	15.0	5.98	2.81
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	1	6	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	18	22	0	0	43
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.01	16.56	0	0	5.49

OTHER FOODS - The premises registered for the purpose of making up and preparing foodstuffs, the manufacture and sale of ice-cream etc. are all maintained in a satisfactory condition.

ADULTERATION OF FOODS. This matter is under the control of the County Council's Officers.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT. Licences are in force with respect to 38 slaughter-men. No contraventions of the Act have been found. Sheep are not included as animals to which Section 1 of the Act applies with respect to the use of a mechanically operated stunning instrument.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

No contraventions of these regulations have been found.

Adoptive Acts in Force in the District

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act,) 1890 - Part 3
 Public Health Acts (Amendment Act,) 1907 - Part 2
 Public Health Act, 1925 - Part 2
 Private Street Works Act, 1892 - The whole.

REGULATIONS IN FORCE

Regulations directing the "material, size and construction" of dustbins for house refuse, adopted 6th June 1939, under provisions of section 75 P.H.Act, 1936.

